

The Nixon Tavern
Fairchance Pa.

HABS No.8-3

HABS
PA
26 FACHA
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA.
District No.8

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

Historic American Buildings Survey
Charles M. Stotz, District Officer
815 Bessemer Bldg., Pittsburgh Pa.

NIXON TAVERN
Fairchance, Fayette County
Pennsylvania

Owner: C.A. Kendall.

Date of Erection: 1810? (drawings); before 1810 (index card).

Architect: No record.

Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Poor.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Log.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

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THE NIXON TAVERN

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The tavern has been owned and occupied by C.A. Kendall and his family since 1924. He purchased it from Luke and Bessie Wood. Nicholas Wilson sold to Luke and Bessie Wood, and he bought it from the Ellen Wood heirs. Jonathan Jordan had sold to Ellen Wood in 1872. Jordan's deed is dated March 18, 1854, and he purchased the property from Piercifer Vernon and wife Rebecca.

August 19, 1848, Piercifer Vernon became owner of the property, buying it from Moses G. Nixon and wife, Nancy. Another Moses Nixon, apparently, whose wife was Jane, became owner of this property in 1834. A deed by Commonwealth of Pennsylvania granted this land to Hananiah Davis and Moses Nixon in 1835. The deed is now in possession of Mrs. Humphreys of Fairchance, Pennsylvania and is enrolled in Patent Book H, Volume 35, Page 128. The deed shows that Hananiah Davis became owner in 1770 and a joint owner with Moses Nixon in 1835.

In a book called "White Rocks"^{is} the story of the murder of Polly Williams^{in 1810} by the bandit Phillip Rogers, ~~given her death in 1810~~ and Mrs. Humphreys verifies a ~~common~~ story common in the vicinity that Polly Williams, when found dead at White Rocks in the mountains, several miles east of the tavern, was brought here and kept over night. This date, 1810, thus

indicates that someone other than Moses Nixon built the tavern. The original builder could not be determined.

Mrs. Humphreys, whose father was Jonathan Jordan, lived in the tavern and claims that the main house, section B on the plot plan, was built first, that section A was added and finally the lean-to or section C was built by Moses G. Nixon.

Lewis C. Mechling Jr., author

Approved, Charles M. Stotz,
District Officer.

Reviewed 1936 by H.C.F.